

**DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AFFAIRS'  
ADMINISTRATION OF AN ADULT EDUCATION GRANT  
IN HARDIN COUNTY FROM THE COUNCIL ON  
POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION AND KENTUCKY  
ADULT EDUCATION**

**For The Period  
July 1, 2010 Through June 30, 2011**



**ADAM H. EDELEN  
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**ADAM H. EDELEN**  
**AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS**

August 15, 2012

Reecie Stagnolia, Vice President  
Kentucky Adult Education  
Council on Postsecondary Education  
1024 Capital Center Drive, Suite 250  
Frankfort, KY 40601

Major General Edward W. Tonini, Adjutant General  
Department of Military Affairs  
100 Minuteman Parkway  
Frankfort, KY 40601

Re: Adult Education Grants

Dear Mr. Stagnolia and Major General Tonini:

This report contains the results of the performance audit of Department of Military Affairs' administration of Hardin County's adult education grant for the fiscal year (FY) ending June 30, 2011. The Council on Postsecondary Education and Kentucky Adult Education contracted with this office to conduct performance audits of selected local adult education programs. This report represents our findings, recommendations, and the program's responses.

The Auditor of Public Accounts conducted this performance audit in accordance with generally accepted government auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain sufficient, appropriate evidence to provide a reasonable basis for our findings and conclusions based on our audit objectives. We believe that the evidence obtained provides a reasonable basis for our findings and conclusions based on our audit objectives.

We greatly appreciate the courtesies and cooperation extended to our staff during the audit.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Adam H. Edelen", written over a horizontal line.

Adam H. Edelen  
Auditor of Public Accounts



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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

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**PURPOSE AND SCOPE**

The Council on Postsecondary Education (CPE) and Kentucky Adult Education (KYAE) selected Hardin County's Bluegrass Challenge Academy for a limited scope performance audit of its adult education grant. The Department of Military Affairs was responsible for the administration of this grant in FY 2011. An on-site review was conducted on May 9, 2012, to address the following objectives:

- Determine whether the local program's expenditures comply with the terms of their grant agreement and reconcile to invoices submitted.
- Reconcile student and faculty data electronically submitted to KYAE through the Adult Education Reporting Information Network (AERIN).
- Determine whether the local program's professional development activities comply with the FY 2010-2011 professional development policies and procedures.
- Report internal control weaknesses identified during our audit that relate to the audit's objectives.

To accomplish these objectives, the performance audit team reviewed the Policy and Procedure Manual for Kentucky Adult Education, as well as the local program's agreement with KYAE. During the on-site review, the audit team reviewed the program's accounting records (trial balance/general ledger), interviewed program administrators regarding internal controls related to the above grants, and tested samples of expenditure documentation, participant files, and personnel files for compliance with applicable requirements.

Below is the summary of findings:

**FINDINGS SUMMARY**

| <b>Finding</b>   | <b>Disallowed<br/>Costs</b> |
|--|-----------------------------|
| Four participant files did not contain an applicable withdrawal statement. | N/A                         |
| One instructor did not have evidence of a bachelor's degree on file.       | N/A                         |

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**RESULTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

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**FINANCIAL REPORTING AND COMPLIANCE**

**Scope and Methodology**

The annual expenditures for which the program requested reimbursement through the KYAE Finance Module were compared to the line item budget approved by KYAE. This comparison was used to determine whether the program's reimbursements complied with the approved budget.

The annual expenditures for which KYAE reimbursed the program were then compared to the program's internally generated financial records. This comparison was used to determine whether the program's accounting records support the total amount requested for reimbursement using the KYAE Finance Module.

**Findings**

No exceptions were noted.



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**PARTICIPANT ELIGIBILITY AND RECORD KEEPING**

**Scope and Methodology**

To ensure an unbiased representation of the population, an automated process was used to randomly select 33 participants from the total population of participants provided by KYAE. The sample size was based on the determination to test 20 percent of the program's total participants, not to exceed 60. The participants tested received services during the period from July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011.

The documentation maintained in the participant files was compared to the electronic student data to test compliance. We examined the files for the following:

- Proper eligibility documentation.
- Proper assessment testing.
- Evidence to support the achievement of goals/objectives reported to KYAE.
- Other requirements based upon the applicable program requirements.

The results of the test apply only to the selected sample and should not be projected to the entire population because the criteria tested may not be applicable to each participant.

**Findings**

Participants aged 16 to 18 years must provide official documentation of withdrawal from school in order to be eligible for adult education services. Four participant files did not contain an applicable withdrawal statement.

**Recommendations**

We recommend the program ensure compliance with applicable policies and procedures related to participant eligibility. The employee entering participant data should have the required documentation prior to enrolling a participant and any deficiencies should be reported to the Program Director.

**Program Response – [A draft report was provided to program management to request their comments and any planned corrective actions related to the finding. Program management was given more than a reasonable amount of time to adequately respond to this request.]**

A response was not provided by the program.

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**PURCHASING/EXPENDITURE COMPLIANCE**

**Scope and Methodology**

Testing was not applicable in this area because the program's grant only included funding for personnel costs.

**PAYROLL AND STAFF REQUIREMENTS**

**Scope and Methodology**

The six staff members employed by this program during the audit period were tested based on KYAE personnel requirements. Personnel files were examined to verify that staff had the proper educational credentials required for their position and the documentation of hours worked was examined for existence and approval.

**Findings**

CPE and KYAE require all instructors hired after July 1998 to have a bachelor's degree. One instructor did not have evidence of a bachelor's degree on file.

**Recommendations**

We recommend that the program ensure that all instructors have the required credentials prior to hiring and that this information is obtained and maintained in the employee's file.

**Program Response – [A draft report was provided to program management to request their comments and any planned corrective actions related to the finding. Program management was given a reasonable amount of time to adequately respond to this request.]**

A response was not provided by the program.

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**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT REIMBURSEMENT COMPLIANCE**

**Scope and Methodology**

Testing was not applicable in this area because the program's grant only included funding for personnel costs.

**INTERNAL CONTROLS RELATING TO GRANT**

**Scope and Methodology**

An Internal Control Questionnaire was provided to program management regarding the controls in place for expenditures, bank reconciliations, revenue, and payroll. The completed questionnaire was reviewed by the audit team for any significant control deficiencies.

**Findings**

No significant control deficiencies were noted.